Poverty in urban areas

†759. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are several states in the country where the number of poor people living in the urban areas are more than the rural areas;

(b) if so, the names of such States alongwith the percentage of poverty which is more in these urban areas as compared to the rural areas;

(c) whether any special scheme has been formulated by Government in this direction to eradicate the poverty; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA) (a) and (b) On the basis of the large sample survey rounds on household consumption expenditure conducted quinquennialiy by National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), Planning Commission estimates the percentege of people living below poverty line for States and UTs. Based on the results of last such round of NSSO, that is, 55th Round conducted in the year 1999-2000, the number of poor people living below poverty line in urban areas is found to be more than the rural areas in the States/ UTs of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Chandigarh, Daman and diu, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Pondicherry. For these States/UTs a table giving the number and percentage of population living below poverty line for both rural and urban areas in 1999-2000 is given in the Statement.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation is already implementing a Centrally Sponsored Urban Poverty Alleviation Programme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), on all India basis, through States/Union Territories, with effect from 1.12.1997, with a view to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed and underemployed poor through, firstly, encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures by those who have studied upto 9th standard and secondly, by providing wage employment by utilising their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The scheme is funded in the ratio of 75:25 between the Centre and the States.

Statement

Number and Percentage of Population living below poverty line in 1999-2000—A comparison between rural and urban areas

Sl. No.	States & UTs	Rural		Urban	
		No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%of Persons
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58.13	11.05	60.88	26.63
2.	Goa	0.11	1.35	0.59	7.52
3.	Chandigarh	0.06	5.75	0.45	5.75
4.	Daman and Diu	0.01	1.35	0.05	7.52
5.	Delhi	0.07	0.40	11.42	9.42
6.	Lakshadweep	0.03	9.38	0.08	20.27
7.	Pondicherry	0.64	20.55	1.77	22.11

National Housing Policy

760. DR. KARAN SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to revive and reshape its National Housing Policy to focus on the economically weaker sections;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering that there is a need to have a funding agency on the pattern of NABARD for the poor in urban areas;

(c) if so, whether these issues were discussed during the State Housing Ministers' Conference held in the month of December, 2004;